

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/644,599

Examiner

Tony Mahmoudi

Applicant(s)

UTSUMI, YOSHIMASA

Art Unit

2165

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the communication filed on 02-August-2005 and the amendment filed on 30-June-2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-19.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

JEF/REY GAFFIN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's Request for Continued Examination (RCE) submission filed on 02-August-2005, and the referenced amendment, filed on 30-June-2005 have been entered.

Remarks

2. In response to the amendment filed on 30-June-2005, claims 1, 8, 12 and 17 have been amended per applicant's request. Claims 1-19 are presently pending in the application, of which, claims 1, 8, 12 and 17 are presented in independent form.

Allowance

3. Claims 1-19 are allowed over the prior art made of record.
4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

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The applicant's amendment, filed on 30-June-2005 overcome the cited prior art with respect to the independent claims. Independent claims 1, 8, 12 and 17 have all been amended by the applicant to include, "copyright protection support" determination limitations, with the signal processing circuit of the memory card, which are not suggested or taught by the cited prior art references.

The prior art of record, Koz (U.S. Patent No. 5,990,955), Guenther et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,418,422), and Wonfor et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,381,747), Fuchigami et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,160,953), and Nejime et al (U.S. Patent No. 5,717,818), do not disclose, teach, or suggest the claimed limitations of (in combination with all other features in the claims):

security means for executing an authorization process by exchanging authorization data with the signal processing circuit of a memory card inserted into said terminal to determine whether said memory card supports copyright protection;

judging means for judging whether the memory card inserted into said terminal apparatus is said first memory card or said second memory card on the basis of the authorization process performed by the security means;

controlling means for controlling said selecting means in accordance with a judgment made by said judging means; and

recording means for recording the compressed signal selected by said controlling means to the inserted memory card, as recited in independent claims 1, 8, 12 and 17.

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Claims 2-7 are allowed over the prior art made of record as dependents of allowed independent claim 1.

Claims 9-11 are allowed over the prior art made of record as dependents of allowed independent claim 8.

Claims 13-16 are allowed over the prior art made of record as dependent of allowed independent claim 12.

Claims 18-19 are allowed over the prior art made of record as dependents of allowed independent claim 17.

Conclusion

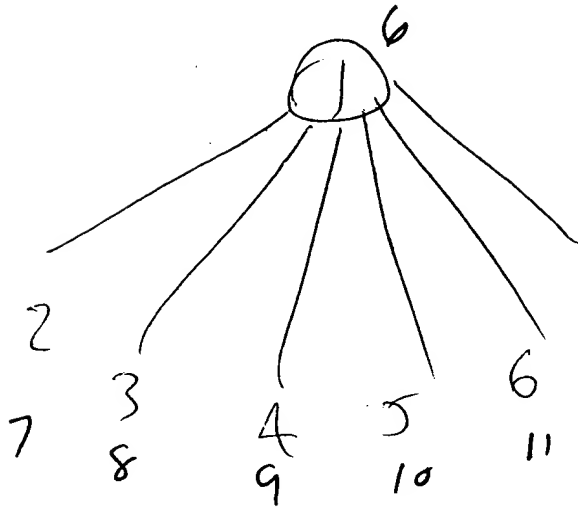
5. Any inquiries concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tony Mahmoudi whose telephone number is (571) 272-4078. The examiner can normally be reached on Mondays-Fridays from 08:00 am to 04:30 pm.

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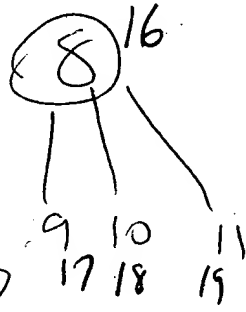
September 23, 2005

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Apparatus 22



Apparatus 34



Apparatus 18



Apparatus 27

